Whalers clinch title, set point record

The Plymouth Whalers have clinched their fourth division title in six years and established a new club point record in the

process.

Plymouth's 4-2 victory over the
London Knights on Feb. 21
secured the Ontario Hockey
League Western Division title
for the Whalers.

And their 3-2 crunching of the

for the Wholers.

And their 8-2 crunching of the Owen Sound Platers on Wednesday night enabled Plymouth to break the franchise record for points, 91, set during the 1994-95 season.

95 season.

The Whalers stood at 93 points heading into their weekend

home games against Kitchener and Windsor. Harold Druken had a hat trick

rarold Drittee had a nat trick against Owen Sound to reach the 50-goal pleteau in his 51st game of the season. Druken also has 37 assists for a total of 87 points. Plymouth scored the first five goals against Owen Sound, four in the first period, to take control early.

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Jason Ward scored 46 seconds into the game, assisted by Dave Legwand and Eric Gooldy.

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Druken made it 5-0 at 13:09 of the second period. Collegiacome and Mara drew the assists on the power play goal.

Owen Sound scored the next

two goals before the Whalers closed it out with goals by Kristopher Vennraky, Kovin Holdridge and Ward.

Mark McMahon and Julian Smith assisted on Vernarsky's goal while James Ramaya and Justin Williams drow the assists on Holdridge's marker. Ward's second goal was a power play score on which Logwand had the sole assist. All three Plymouth goals came in the final 10 minutes of the game.

Plymouth had a 47-34 edge in shote on goal. Rob Zepp went the distance in goal for the Whalers.

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just couldn't connect," St. John said. "I think both teams had the sitters early. We were missing passes we don't normally miss.
"But Stevensen also did a good job of holding our shots down. This is one of the lowest all year (21). Normally we're in the range of 35 to 38."
The Shamrocks then scered twice late in the second period to take a commanding 3-0 lead.
Splewak best Spartan netminder Kevin Marlowe at 11:21 on an assist from Moss. Brad Holland then gave CC a three-goal cushion at 13:47 from Brandon Kaleniecki.
CC, meanwhile, held the Spartans to just five total shots over the first two periods.
"We couldn't get it going," Harries said. "We were battling all

Detroit Catholic Central defeated Redford Unified in a Class A hockey district semifinal game Friday at Livonia's Eddie Edgar Arena, 8-2.

Edgar Arena, 8-2.
RU, which finished 19-4-2,
trailed only 2-1 after one period
before the No. 1-ranked Shamrocks scored four unanswered
goals in the first 10:11 of the sec-

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night.
"I thought Willie Wilson was exceptional for us. He showed a lot of heart. If everyone had played as hard as Willie maybe it may have been a different outcome."

Meanwhile, the Shamrocks

Moanwhile, the Shamrocks managed to stay out of the penalty box for two periods while maintaining a physical presence. Their two centers kept going up the middle and they go whacked every time," St. John said. "And I think by the second period their legs gave out. We also blocked some shots and did a reasonably good job in our zone."

Stevenson got on the board with at the 4-minute mark of the third on Chris Williams' shot from the blue line. Ryan Sinks

Shamrocks whip Panthers, 8-2

played the first two periods before letting Andrew McCoy fin-

assisted on the power-play goal giving the Spartans temporary life.

But Bentley put the game away for CC with 2:09 remaining on an assist from Spiewak.

"We've got some big guys and you have to use them physically," St. John said. "And we also have skilled people. That combination is kind of a luxury."

Things, however, got silly in the final three minutes as the Spartans lost their cool with series of roughing penalties and unecessary skirmishes, leading to a parade to the box.

It created a black eye and marred an otherwise hardfought game.

"When they scored that fourth goal we lost our mental discipline, I wish we would have han-

10:11 of the second period, assisted by Joe Moreau, gave the Shamrocks a 6-1 lead and sent hard-luck RU goaltender Eric Pagel to the beach. Joe Roe surrendered two goals in the third

died it with more class," Harris said. "We have 11 seniors and I think their emotions get the best of them. It was a contest against a tough opponent. "We fought hard, but we let things get away, It was a great game, It's just unfortunate it had to get rowdy like that." The Spartans, who finished 19-3-2 overall, couldn't have getten a tougher opening-round draw. "We started the season with a 4-1 loss, to Trenton and we end on a 4-1 loss, therris said. "We had a great team and a great season. It's said, but life goes on."





